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SOURCE Dagens Nyheter, No 2, 1950.

HINTS RUSSIAN POLICY CHANGE
FOR EAST GERMANY

Berlin -- It is reported today in Berlin that the Eastern German delegation to Stalin's birthday celebration drank bitter tea. The leader of the delegation, Walter Ulbricht, was subjected to a lot of severe criticism and was given a sharp tongue-lashing for the way he has been handling Moscow's affairs in Eastern Germany. In fact, Ulbricht was told to remain in Moscow a few days longer than the other delegates.

It is believed in Berlin that Ulbricht was censured for two reasons: (1) it had been discovered that the Eastern German production figures, to a great extent, had been falsified, and (2) Moscow is displeased with Ulbricht's bitter threats against Western Germany.

The Kremlin's investigators were undoubtedly correct about the production figures. It is difficult to think of anything more unreliable than Eastern German production figures, unless it be Russian statistics. In any event, the method is the same. The only way that Eastern Germany could fulfill its Two-Year Plan was by falsifying the figures; all industries in Eastern Germany fulfilled their production quotas by at least 112 percent. It is no wonder that the Russian statisticians gradually discovered the bluff.

It is more difficult to determine the real nature of Moscow's dissatisfaction with the threatening tone of Ulbricht's statement of policy. There is no doubt that Ulbricht is Moscow's most trusted man the Eastern German regime. It is therefore, quite unlikely that he would make a speech deviating from the general line.

If the information about the Ulbricht-Stalin meeting, stemming from informed circles, is true, it means that the Politburo has decided upon another change in its German policy.

- 1 -

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According to informed sources, Ulbricht learned the following in Moscow:

1. The Soviet Union definitely will not conclude a separate peace with Eastern Germany.
2. The state of war was regarded as terminated with the transference of part of the administrative responsibility to the Eastern German government.
3. The Soviet Union is interested in maintaining the status quo in Germany. The Kremlin, therefore, does not want the Eastern German regime to seek to expand its sphere of power in Germany by propaganda or other means. It is important that good relations be established with the Bonn Government.
4. The planned large-scale action against West Berlin is to be junked.

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- 2 -

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